

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON THAILAND / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership of UNESCO:** Thailand joined the Organization on 1 January 1949
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** Member (Term expires 2015)
3. **Membership of Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Man and the Biosphere Programme:** Member (term expires: 38th General Conference)
 - Management of the Social Transformations Programme:** Member (term expires: 38th General Conference)
 - International Programme for the Development of Communication:** Vice-President
 - Headquarters Committee:** Member (term expires: 38th General Conference)
 - Legal Committee:** Member (term expires: 38th General Conference)
 - Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC):** Chairperson, member (term expires : 38th General Conference)
 - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission:** Executive Council Member State
4. **The Director-General's visits to Thailand: 2**
 - 22-23 March 2011
 - 8-11 September 2012
5. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - H. E. Mr Apichart Chinwanno, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO. (17 Dec 2013 to 2 October 2015)
6. **UNESCO Office in Bangkok:**
 - **Cluster Office** for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam and also Regional Bureau for Education;
 - **Establishment:** in 1961 as the Asian Regional Office for Primary/Compulsory Education, UNESCO Bangkok progressed to become the Principal Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (PROAP) in 1987. Further growth included the incorporation of activities relating to UNESCO's culture, communication and social science sectors, making the Office more multidisciplinary;
 - **Director:** Mr Gwang-jo KIM (D-2, Republic of Korea) since 19 January 2009
7. **National Commission for UNESCO:** established in October 1949:
 - **Chairperson:** Admiral Narong Pipatanasai
 - **Vice Chairperson:** Mrs Suthasri Wongsaman
 - **Secretary-General:** Mr Kamon Siriban (since October 2014)
8. **Personalities linked to UNESCO activities:**
 - Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador;
 - Mr Yongyuth Yuthavong, Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC)
9. **UNESCO Chairs: 6 + 2 UNITWIN Networks**
 - UNESCO Interdisciplinary Chair in the Rational Use of Drugs, established in 1992 at Chulalongkorn University
 - NKK/UNESCO Chair in Metallurgical Engineering, established in 1996 at Chulalongkorn University

- KUBOTA/UNESCO Chair in Agricultural Machinery Engineering, established in 1998 at Kasetsart University
- UNESCO-Obayashi Chair in Civil Engineering, established in 2000 at the University of Chulalongkorn
- Toyota/UNESCO Chair in Environmental Management, established in 2001 at the Prince of Songkla University
- UNESCO Chair in Peace and Conflict Studies (833), established in 2008 at Prince of Songkla University
- **UNITWIN Network** in Distance Education for Development (Greater Mekong Subregional and South-Eastern Asia), established in 1998 at Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University
- **UNITWIN Network** on Economics Teaching and Training for the Greater Mekong Sub-region, established in 1998 at SEAMEO Regional Center for Higher Education and Development

10. Associated Schools:

- A Member since 1958, Thailand currently has 180 schools (6 Primary, 9 Primary/Secondary, 126 Secondary, 29 Vocational and Technical ED and 10 Teacher Training schools) participating in the Network.

11. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: none

12. Biosphere Reserves: 4

- Mae Sa-Kog Ma Biosphere Reserve (1977)
- Hauy Tak Teak Biosphere Reserve (1977)
- Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve (1976)
- Ranong Biosphere Reserve (1997)

13. World Heritage sites: 5

- Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex (N; 2005)
- Ban Chiang Archaeological Site (C; 1992)
- Thungyai-Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuaries (N; 1991)
- Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns (C; 1991)
- Historic City of Ayutthaya (C; 1991)

14. Tentative List: 5 properties

- Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (KKFC) (2011)
- Phimai, its Cultural Route and the Associated Temples of Phanomroong and Muangtam (2004)
- Phuphrabat Historical Park (2004)
- Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan, Nakhon Si Thammarat (2012)
- Monuments, Sites and Cultural Landscape of Chiang Mai, Capital of Lanna (2015)

15. Intangible Heritage Lists: 0 elements

16. Memory of the World Register: 4 elements

- **The King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription (PK)** of 1292 A.D., a siltstone pillar of 114,5 centimetres, is preserved in the National Museum in Bangkok. This is the oldest known inscription in the Thai language (2003).
- **Archival Documents of King Chulalongkorn's Transformation of Siam** (1868-1910), record social policies such as the successful emancipation of slaves by peaceful and legal means, the abolition of gambling, the establishment of a public school system and the reform of the Buddhist Sangha, as well as the promotion of agricultural production, the market economy, financial and fiscal institutions. These measures contributed to the

maintenance of Siam independence during the age of Western colonialism (2009).

- **The Epigraphic Archives of Wat Pho:** This is a unique collection of 1,431 stone inscriptions in Thai language and scripts made in 1831-1841 on both religious and secular subjects, representing a wide range of Thai knowledge of Asian and local roots of the time in the context of over five centuries of global exchanges in trade, politics and culture (2011).
- **“The Minute Books of the council of the Siam Society”, 100 years of recording international cooperation in research and the dissemination of knowledge in the arts and sciences:** Documentary heritage submitted by Thailand and recommended for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register (2013).

17. **Creative Cities Network:** none

18. **Legal instruments:** 6 ratified and 33 non-ratified

19. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015:**

- 2014: 100th anniversary of King Prajadhipok of Siam's commencement of service in Thailand and anniversary of the 10th Asian cycle of his birth
- 2014: 150th anniversary of the birth of Her Majesty Queen Sri Bajarinda
- 2015: 100th anniversary of the birth of Princess Prem (Ngarmchit) Purachatra (1915-1983)

20. **Participation Programme:**

- 2014-2015:1 project submitted and approved for a total amount of US\$ 26,000
- 2012-2013:Thailand has not submitted PP requests
- 2010-2011:3 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 85,000

21. **Fellowships:**

Since 2010, 13 fellowships were awarded to Thailand with the total amount of US\$ 226,214.

22. **Voluntary contributions to UNESCO:**

Voluntary Contributions to UNESCO Extra-Budgetary Activities and Institutes			
(Expressed in US Dollars)			
COUNTRY	Jan-Jun 2015	2014	2013
THAILAND	147,382	53,802	78,708

23. **Payment of assessed membership fees for 2014-2015:**

(Assessment rate:0.239%; contributions assessed for 2014-2015: US\$ 1,560,670)

24. **Representation within the Secretariat:** under represented

1 geographical post (min. 3, max. 5)